

A  
BRIEF HISTORY  
OF



COLUMBUS AIR FORCE BASE  
and  
THE 14TH FLYING TRAINING WING

2021

**Emblem** (front cover): Approved 11 December 2007. Earlier revisions approved 16 September 1994 and 16 September 1994.

**Blazon:** Azure, in chief an escutcheon per bend Argent and Sable, over two laurel branches in saltire Or, above in bend two flight symbols ascending one Argent, surmounting one Gules, encircled by five mullets, one in sinister chief and four in dexter base of the fourth. All within a diminished bordure Or.

Attached below the shield, a White scroll edged with a narrow Yellow border and inscribed "14TH FLYING TRAINING WING" in blue letters.

**Significance:** Ultramarine blue and Air Force yellow are the Air Force colors. Blue alludes to the sky, the primary theater of Air Force operations. Yellow refers to the sun and the excellence required of Air Force personnel. The two flight symbols ascending symbolize the unit's training mission. The stars allude to essential expertise needed by assigned personnel to complete required tasks. The escutcheon commemorates the World War II battle credits carried by the unit.

**Motto:** Day and Night - Peace and War (approved on 19 June 1967).

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## A SHORT HISTORY OF COLUMBUS AIR FORCE BASE, MISSISSIPPI

The installation's history began on 26 June 1941 when the War Department approved an Army Air Field for the Columbus, Mississippi area. Behind this approval were months of concerted efforts by local citizens.

Local dignitaries met with Brig Gen Walter R. Weaver, Commanding General, Army Air Forces Southeast Training Center, when he visited the area



*Local dignitaries met with Brig Gen Walter R. Weaver, Commanding General, Army Air Forces Southeast Training Center, when he visited the area in March 1941. The Army Air Forces was considering Columbus as the possible site of an air base.*

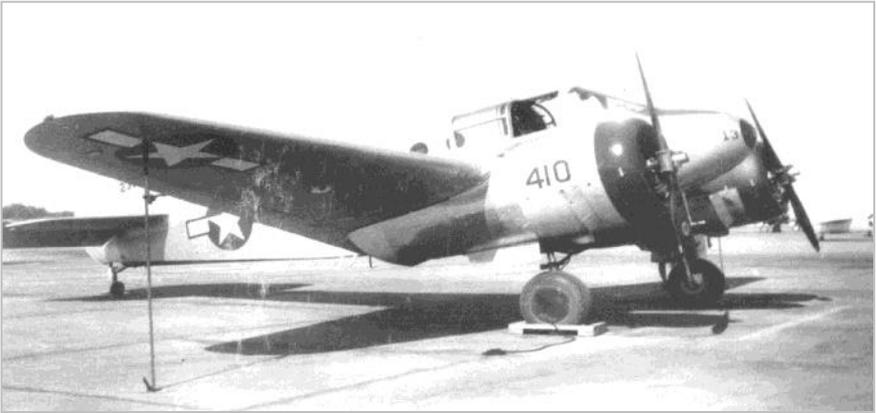
in March 1941. The Army Air Forces was considering Columbus as the possible site of an air base.

On the afternoon of 14 February 1941, 100 of the area's leading citizens met at the Gilmer Hotel to organize an association to secure defense industries. Their efforts paid off when the War Department announced that a pilot training base would be established in Columbus. On 12 August 1941, Columbus officials leased the tract of land to the United States for \$1 per year. The land was ultimately given to the air force in 1956.

The base began as a twin-engine advanced flying school to train fighters and bombers. The new air base came under the control of the Southeastern Air Corps Training Center at Maxwell Field, Alabama. The Mion Company began construction on 12 September 1941, and on 13 January 1942, 100 enlisted men arrived to form the first skeleton organizations on the base.

The War Department announced on 22 January 1942 that the base would be named Kaye Field in honor of Captain Sam Kaye, a World War I flying ace from Columbus. Unfortunately, however, the name soon caused confusion because a nearby base, Key Field in Meridian, Mississippi, had a similar sounding name. To remedy the problem, the War Department changed the Kaye Field to Columbus Army Flying School in March 1942.

The first aircraft, nine Lockheed AT-10s and twenty-one AT-8s arrived at the Columbus Flying School in early 1942. The first students, twenty-five ca-



*Columbus used AT-10s in its flying training program in World War II.*

dets from Barksdale Field, Louisiana, arrived at Columbus in February 1942. They had already completed a considerable part of their training when the Air Corps moved them. The cadets entered training at Columbus on 9 February 1942 and graduated on 6 March 1942.

During World War II, the training load gradually increased until Columbus was graduating 195 pilots per month. A total of 7,766 students arrived for pilot training, of which 7,412 graduated and received their silver wings and commissions. The school used a number of trainers, including the AT-8, AT-9, AT-10, and B-25. For administrative travel, Columbus used the AT-6 and BC-1A.

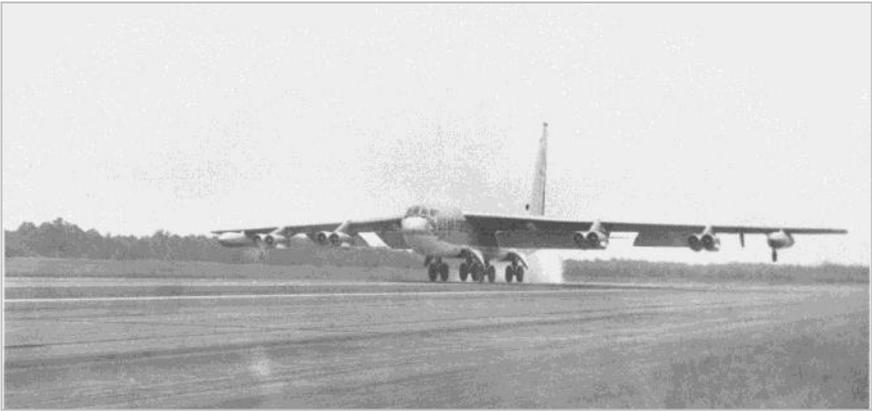
Due to the efforts of Lt Col Joseph B. Duckworth, the Columbus Army Flying School developed and perfected two systems of training, which was adopted by the command. The first was the Flying Evaluation Board. This board instituted tough new criteria to evaluate an instructor's proficiency. The second was the "full panel" attitude system of instrument flying, which is credited with revolutionizing training in blind flying. In addition to the three instruments already used, students were taught to use two gyro instruments, the magnetic compass, the rate-of-climb indicator, and the clock.

By the time the war ended in 1945, the base strength had reached a peak of 2,300 enlisted men, 300 officers, and an average of 250 pilot cadets per class.

Training activities significantly slowed after the war causing the War Department to inactivate the base in 1946.

Columbus sat idle for four years until communist troops violated South Korea's borders and fighting broke out in 1950. To accommodate the increased need for pilots for the Korean War, Air Training Command (ATC) activated Columbus Air Force Base (AFB) on 20 December as a contract flying school. The contractor that provided pilot training was California Eastern Airways. About 3,000 pilots trained from 1951-1955. Training continued until the ATC moved the training mission to Moore Air Base, Texas in early 1955.

On 1 April 1955, USAF transferred Columbus AFB from ATC to Strategic Air Command (SAC) and Second Air Force. The base began a building program to support its new mission as part of SAC's base dispersal system. The city deeded an additional 3,000 acres to the base so a northwest-southeast runway and a 480-unit housing project could be built. It was not until December 1957, however, that officials at SAC announced the base would become the home of a B-52 squadron and a KC-135 jet refueling tanker squadron. To manage these units, SAC activated the 4228th Strategic Wing on 1 July 1958



*B-52 touches down at Columbus AFB.*

The first Stratotanker piloted by the wing commander, Col William H. Cleveland, landed on the new runway on 7 January 1959, followed by the first B-52 on 28 May 1959. In February 1963, SAC inactivated the 4228th Strategic Wing and activated the 454th Bombardment Wing, Heavy, in its place. The 454th conducted air refueling operations and trained in bombardment operations. Beginning in the summer of 1965, the wing's headquarters staff, tactical aircraft and crews, and maintenance personnel became a part of SAC combat forces in the Pacific and Southeast Asia. During their involvement in the Vietnam War, the 454th Combat Support Group operated Columbus AFB.

On 1 July 1969, after 14 years as a SAC base, USAF transferred Columbus back to ATC and to its original mission of training pilots. In preparation for the transfer, ATC had activated the 3650th Pilot Training Wing at Columbus on 15 February. The first undergraduate pilot training class, 71-01, entered training on 17 July.

Three years later, on 1 June 1972, ATC discontinued the 3650th and activated the 14th Flying Training Wing in its place. The 14th remains the host organization at Columbus and continues to train the world's best pilots.

## HISTORY OF THE 14TH WING

### Bestowed History

In an effort to maintain the illustrious histories of the various combat organizations active during World War II and earlier, the Air Force established a policy in the early 1950s which allowed wings to have bestowed upon them the history and honors of groups with the same numerical designations. In the case of the 14th Fighter Wing, which was first established as a temporary organization in July 1947, the Air Force temporarily bestowed on the wing the lineage and honors of the 14th Pursuit (later Fighter) Group for the period prior to 15 August 1947 and from 18 August 1955 to 25 June 1960.

The War Department activated the 14th Pursuit Group (Fighter) on 15 January 1941 and redesignated it as a fighter group in May 1942. The group moved to England and began operations in October 1942 escorting bombers to targets in France. The 14th Fighter Group moved to North Africa in November 1942 and remained in the Mediterranean theater until the end of the war, being assigned first to Twelfth Air Force and later to the Fifteenth.

The group flew escort, strafing, and reconnaissance missions from November 1942 to January 1943 and then temporarily withdrew from combat until May 1943. Air crews flew bombing missions during the Allied assault on Pantelleria; supported the invasions of Sicily and Italy; and escorted bombers engaged in long-range operations in Italy, France, Germany, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Austria, Yugoslavia, Rumania, and Bulgaria.

During this time, the 14th Fighter Group received a Distinguished Unit Citation for a mission on 2 April 1944 in which the group, by warding off attacks by enemy fighters, enabled bombers to strike an important ball bearing works in Austria. The group also provided air support for the Allied invasion of Southern France in August 1944. In addition, the 14th Fighter Group flew long-range missions to strafe and bomb motor vehicles, trains, bridges, supply areas, and troops from France to the Balkans. On 9 September 1945, the War Department inactivated the group.

The 14th Fighter Group returned to active service at Dow Field, Maine, on 20 November 1946, equipped with P-47 aircraft. When the Air Force activated the

14th Fighter Wing, also at Dow Field, on 29 July 1947, the 14th Fighter Group became a subordinate component of the 14th Fighter Wing.

The Air Force established the 14th Fighter Wing as a temporary organization to take part in a service-wide test of a new organizational structure known as wing-base. On 26 July 1948, the USAF discontinued the temporary wing and activated a permanent 14th Fighter Wing in its place.

## **14th Wing History**

The mission of the 14th Fighter Wing was to provide air defense for the north-eastern United States. It performed that function until the wing was inactivated on 2 October 1949.

During the Vietnam War, USAF redesignated the 14th Fighter Wing as the 14th Air Commando Wing and activated it on 28 February 1966 at Nha Trang Air Base, Republic of Vietnam. It was assigned to the Pacific Air Forces and performed combat operations in Southeast Asia, operating from numerous locations in South Vietnam and Thailand.

On 1 August 1968, the 14th Air Commando Wing was redesignated the 14th Special Operations Wing. In addition to such traditional missions as close air and direct air support, interdiction, combat airlift, aerial resupply, and reconnaissance, wing operations included unconventional warfare, counter-insurgency operations, psychological warfare, forward air control operations, search and rescue, flare drops, civic and humanitarian actions. Colonel Conrad Allman flew the wing's 150,000th combat mission in a AC-47 assigned to the 3d Special Operations Squadron. Two days later, the wing became the first USAF unit to receive the Vietnamese Cross of Gallantry with Palm.

Under the American policy of "Vietnamization," the 14th transferred its "Spookies," the AC-47 gunships, from its 3d Special Operations Squadron to the Vietnamese Air Force. The squadron flew its last mission on 7 August and inactivated on 1 September. By the end of the year, the wing had transferred all of its AC-47s to either the Vietnamese Air Force or the Royal Laotian Air Force. In their place, the 14th received AC-119s.

The 14th Special Operations Wing was inactivated on 30 September 1971. Three men assigned to elements of the 14th Wing received the Medal of Honor for outstanding actions in Southeast Asia. They were Major Bernard F. Fisher (1st Air Commandos), First Lieutenant James P. Fleming (20th Special Operations Squadron), and Airman First Class John L. Levitow (3d Special Operations Squadron).

USAF redesignated the 14th Special Operations Wing as the 14th Flying Training Wing (14 FTW) on 22 March 1972 and assigned the wing to Air Training Command. On 1 June 1972 ATC activated the wing at Columbus. The 14 FTW replaced and absorbed the resources of the 3650th Pilot Training Wing which ATC had inactivated at Columbus the same day. Besides serving as the host unit at Columbus, the 14th also was responsible for conducting undergraduate pilot training.

In the early 1990s, ATC directed a significant organizational change in its undergraduate pilot training wings. As a result, the flying training program converted to a five-squadron concept in lieu of the three-squadron concept. Thus, in addition to the 37th and 50th Flying Training Squadrons, the 42d, 43d, and 49th Flying Training Squadrons (FTS) were activated. The 14th Student Squadron was inactivated, and the 42d now served as the student squadron.

In September 1991, Air Force Chief of Staff, Gen Merrill A. McPeak, announced a major change in the Air Force structure in order to meet future airpower needs. It would be the most significant change since the Air Force became a separate service in 1947. The change consolidated Strategic Air Command, Tactical Air Command, and the Military Airlift Command into the Air Combat Command and Air Mobility Command.

The Air Force began to downsize so was the need to reduce pilot production. ATC announced in 1991 that “zero loading” of classes would begin with class 92-08, which meant every other class had no students assigned to it. The five-squadron concept was short-lived. After only two years, AETC conducted an organizational review, which considered changes to the one year UPT program, development of the merit assignment system and a desire to strengthen responsibility and accountability for commanders at all echelons. ATC determined the single squadron per aircraft system would more effectively meet these goals. ATC received approval from Air Staff to make the change. As a result, the 49 FTS was inactivated on 18 September 1992, and the 43 FTS was inactivated on 1 October 1992.

An Air Force-wide hospital restructuring resulted in the 14th Medical Squadron being re-designated the 14th Medical Group on 1 November 1993. Shortly thereafter, the 14th Medical Group activated four squadrons: the 14th Dental Squadron, the 14th Aerospace Medicine Squadron, the 14th Medical Support Squadron, and the 14th Medical Operations Squadron. A few years later, Medical Group downsizing, based on total authorizations and special mission requirements, resulted in the inactivation of the Aerospace Medicine and Dental Squadrons on 1 June 1997 and 17 June 1998, respectively.

On 1 July 1993, Columbus AFB began a new mission of training fighter pilots with the Introduction to Fighter Fundamentals (IFF) course. ATC reactivated the 49th Flying Training Squadron to support the new mission. The first AT-38s arrived on base in August 1993 to support IFF.

Another result of the restructure occurred on 1 July 1993 when the USAF re-designated ATC as Air Education and Training Command (AETC). At the same time, Air University became a subordinate component of the command, and AETC activated two numbered air forces, Second and Nineteenth, to manage technical and flying training, respectively. As a part of that restructuring, AETC reassigned 14 FTW to Nineteenth Air Force.

The introduction to specialized undergraduate pilot training (SUPT) in 1993 was not a new concept but a return to a system similar to the one used for some 20 years prior to the switch to generalized UPT in 1959. SUPT consisted of three phases: Phase I - preflight, Phase II - primary training in the T-37, and Phase III-

one of four specialized tracks. After Phase II, students progressed to either T-38C for fighter/bomber training, T-1A for tanker/transport training, T-44 at Corpus Christi, Texas, for C-130 training, or UH-1 helicopter training at Ft. Rucker, Alabama. The Air Force had purchased the T-1A to support tanker/transport training in SUPT. Of the four SUPT bases, Columbus was the last to receive the T-1A. The first T-1A arrived on base on 25 January 1996. In addition, the 48th Flying Training Squadron activated on 1 July 1996 to support the new mission. The first SUPT class, class 97-08, entered training on 19 April 1996 and graduated on 2 May 1997.

In 1996, an Air Force-wide pilot shortage caused by a downsizing of the total force, high ops tempo, frequent moves, and the civilian airline market vying for their skills resulted in a need for increased pilot training. To alleviate the situation, AETC implemented a program to use Air Force reserve personnel as instructor pilots. As a result, the 43d Flying Training Flight (Reserve) activated at Columbus on 19 June 1997, and later re-designated the 43d Flying Training Squadron on 5 June 1998. The 43 FTS was assigned to the 340th Flying Training Group but stationed at Columbus AFB to augment the cadre of active duty instructor pilots.

Due to the demands of the increased pilot training, AETC ended “zero-loaded” classes in April 1997. Classes began graduating every three weeks versus every six weeks causing the number of pilot graduates at Columbus to nearly double from 1997 to 2000 with 191 and 320, respectively.

To increase the span of control in the over-crowded T-37 squadron, Columbus activated a second T-37 squadron, the 41st Flying Training Squadron, on 1 October 1998. The addition of the new squadron brought the wing back to five flying training squadrons: the 37 FTS, 41 FTS, 48 FTS, 49 FTS and the 50 FTS. However, more mission changes, the need to increase efficiency, and a response to meet Congressional directives resulted in changes to the force structure, which were part of the Air Force’s Quadrennial Defense Review. One initiative involved consolidating the IFF missions at Columbus and Randolph AFBs to Moody Air Force Base, Georgia. On 10 October 2000, the 49 FTS inactivated at Columbus and transferred its personnel and aircraft to Moody AFB.

In January 2000, a site survey team from AETC evaluated Columbus’ infrastructure to determine its ability to bed down the new Joint Primary Aircraft Training System (JPATS) and the new T-38C. JPATS included replacing the aging T-37 aircraft with the new T-6A “Texan II.” Delivery to Columbus began in 2006. In addition, Columbus had become the test base for the upgraded T-38Cs. The T-38C avionics upgrade program consisted of upgrading the T-38A and B model aircraft with new avionics and cockpit displays, which would become the T-38C. As a result of the upgrade, future SUPT graduates would be better prepared for the transition to training in follow-on fighter aircraft. The first two upgraded T-38C ‘test’ aircraft arrived at Columbus on 31 July 1999. The evaluators provided the contractor, McDonnell-Douglas Corporation and AETC with feedback on deficiencies and software problems prior to the entire fleet being modified. The first operational T-38C arrived at Columbus on 16 July 2002. The base would eventually receive a total of 67 T-38Cs in FY 02 and FY 03.

Another Air Force reorganization initiative in September 2002 resulted in the 14th Support Group being redesignated the 14th Mission Support Group. In addition, maintenance was realigned under the Wing versus the operations group.

The 2005 BRAC process realigned Department of Defense assets and closed select bases. As a result, Columbus gained 14 T-38C aircraft used for IFF training, and the 49th Fighter Training Squadron was activated on 10 May 2007. IFF provided training to all pilots and weapons systems officers entering assignments for fighter aircraft.

In 2006, the Chief of Staff approved the merger of Personnel and Services functions. At base level, the program action directive required installations to merge the resources of the Mission Support Squadron and Services Squadron, which resulted in activating the 14th Force Support Squadron on 1 April 2008.

After 39 years of service, and being known as the gateway to the sky for over 10,000 Columbus-based trainees, the T-37 was formally retired on 3 April 2008. The final T-37 student sortie was flown on 31 March 2008.

In line with the Air Force's push to downsize and restructure, Secretary of the Air Force for Financial Management (SAF/FM) and Secretary of the Air Force for Acquisition (SAF/AQC) introduced an initiative to increase efficiency and streamline operations by merging the comptroller and contracting squadrons. The initiative included a two-year test program beginning in July 2008. Effective 16 July 2008, the 14th Comptroller and Contracting Squadron (Provisional) activated.

Less than two years later, on 17 February 2010, the Air Force curtailed the trial merger between the Comptroller and Contracting Squadrons. An official justification for ending the program, cited, "Transformation and functional needs went in a different direction, and the test did not provide a compelling rationale to alter the current organizational structure of the comptroller and contracting squadrons across the air force." In other words, while the concept of a combined organization proved to be a success, initial key issues which promoted the test pilot program had changed. Efforts were refocused toward current challenges. Thus, on 18 February 2010, the 14th Comptroller and Contracting Squadron was inactivated as a provisional unit.

Space Shuttle *Atlantis* landed at Columbus AFB on 2 June 2009, which marked the base's final space shuttle ferry flight support and the end of an era – the National Aeronautics and Space Administration's (NASA) Space Shuttle Program. Almost 20 years earlier, on 29 October 1989, a NASA 747 aircraft carrying the space shuttle *Atlantis* landed at Columbus on its return flight to the Kennedy Space Center due to bad weather. This was the first visit to Columbus by the shuttle. Later, the space shuttle *Endeavor* landed at Columbus AFB on 6 February 1995.

On 2 December 2011, the AETC reactivated the 14th Student Squadron (STUS) at Columbus AFB and assigned this new squadron to 14th Operations Group (14 OG). This decision resulted from a 2009 AETC Commanders Conference, in which group members addressed a major concern regarding the overwhelming and multiple responsibilities of Operation Support Squadrons (OSS). This particular management concern, affected units throughout the training com-

mand. As a result, AETC reactivated student squadrons not only at Columbus, but also at Laughlin and Sheppard AFBs in Texas and Vance AFB in Oklahoma. The new 14th Student Squadron focused on all phases of student training, to include academic and Reserve Training Unit completion.

The base continued its proud tradition of producing pilots while also playing an integral role in the Columbus, MS community. The base celebrated its 70th Anniversary in March 2012, which included a formal banquet, historical displays, and U.S. Senator Roger Wicker (MS) as guest speaker.

The six-month long modernization and reconstruction efforts which replaced Columbus AFB's nearly 60-year old middle runway surface completed on 16 September 2013. Mississippi Governor Phil Bryant, Senator Roger Wicker and Congressman Alan Nunnelee attended the grand reopening of the runway.

The 14th Logistics Readiness Squadron was activated at Columbus AFB and assigned to the 14th Mission Support Group on 1 August 2014. The new squadron inherited the lineage and heritage of the former 14th Supply Squadron which inactivated at Columbus AFB on 15 December 1991. This organizational change transitioned a director-led division to a commander-led squadron.

On 26 September 2014, the Secretary of the Air Force approved the reactivation of the 19th Air Force as a command level between the AETC and the 14 FTW.

AETC reactivated the historic 81st Fighter Squadron (81 FS) at Moody AFB, Georgia, on 1 October 2014 to train Afghan pilots and maintainers on the A-29 Super Tucano fighter aircraft. Although the 81 FS is a tenant unit at Moody AFB, the squadron falls under command of the 14th Operations Group and 14 FTW at Columbus AFB, Mississippi.

Later, in December 2015, the 81 FS graduated its first class of combat-ready attack pilots. According to Col John Nichols, 14 FTW Commander at the time, this graduation represented the first step in fulfilling the requirement from the International Security Assistance Force to conduct training outside of Afghanistan.

While the 14 FTW has experienced many changes and challenges throughout the years since its activation in 1972, the host unit of Columbus Air Force base continues its mission to Cultivate Airmen, Create Pilots and Connect. In addition to its training mission, it deploys elements to support the greater air force and department of defense national security missions.

**COLUMBUS AIR FORCE BASE  
COMMANDERS**

Col Louie C. Mallory.....	6 Jun 41
Lt Col Wilmer A. Hardesty .....	5 Apr 45
Lt Col James R. Dubose, Jr. ....	9 Jul 45
Col Karl S. Axtater .....	9 Aug 45
Lt Col James R. Dubose, Jr. ....	18 Aug 45
Col Louie P. Turner .....	8 Nov 45
Lt Col James R. Dubose, Jr.....	12 Jan 46
Col Louie P. Turner .....	16 Apr 46
Lt Col Don H. Rogers.....	3 Jul 46

**3301ST PILOT TRAINING SQUADRON\***

Col Garnet B. Palmer.....	Mar 51
Lt Col John S. Buckwalter.....	6 Jan 53
Lt Col Ethel B. Branham .....	4 Jan 54

**4228TH AIR BASE SQUADRON**

Lt Col Alexander H. Parrish .....	1 Apr 55
Col John C. Watson .....	1 Jul 55
Col William H. Cleveland .....	12 Mar 58

**4228TH STRATEGIC WING**

Col William H. Cleveland (4228 Strategic Wing).....	12 Mar 58
Col Ralph W. Stanley (4228 Strategic Wing).....	Apr 59
Col Orie O. Schurter (4228 Strategic Wing & transitioned to 454th Bomb Wing).....	Feb 61-Jun 64

**454TH BOMBARDMENT WING**

Col William F. Seith.....	June 66
Col Edward O. Martin.....	May 67
Col Frank L. Scurlock .....	Nov 68

**3650TH PILOT TRAINING WING**

Col Billy A. McLeod.....	1 Jul 69
Col William A. Boutwell.....	5 Feb 71

***Since June 1972, commanders of the 14th Flying Training Wing are also the base commanders.***

# 14TH WING LINEAGE AND HONORS

## Commanders

### 14th Fighter Group

1Lt Troy Keith	15 Jan 41
Col Thayer S. Olds	18 Apr 41
Lt Col Troy Keith	28 Jan 43
Col Oliver B. Taylor	26 Sep 43
Col Daniel S. Campbell	18 Jul 44
Col Thomas B. Whitehouse	Mar 45
Lt Col Lewis W. Chick	24 Dec 46

### 14th Fighter Wing

Col Loring F. Stetson, Jr.	29 Jul 47
Col George A. McHenry	c. 7 Jan 48
Col Arvid E. Olson, Jr.	c. 30 Sep 49
Inactivated	2 Oct 49
Activated (not manned)	28 Feb 66

### 14th Air Commando Wing

Col Robert J. Jones	8 Mar 66
Col Gordon F. Bradburn	17 Apr 66
Col Forest L. Rauscher	10 Apr 67
Col John M. Patton	21 Nov 67
Col Conrad S. Allman	3 Jun 68

### 14th Special Operations Wing

Col William K. Bush	5 Mar 69
Col Clyde S. Cherry	2 Sep 69
Col William H. Fairbrother	3 Apr 70
Col Alfred F. Eaton	13 Sep 70
Col Mark W. Magnan	14 Mar 71
Col Malcolm L. Nurnburg	13 Sep 71
Inactivated	30 Sep 71

## 14th Flying Training Wing

Col William A. Boutwell	1 Jun 72
Col Robert B. Tanguy	9 Jun 72
Col James S. Creedon	18 Jul 73
Col Horace W. Miller	8 Mar 76
Col Winfield S. Harpe	10 Jul 78
Col Richard A. Pierson	4 Jun 80
Col Alexander Zakrzewski, Jr.	4 Jun 81
Col Chester W. Griffin, Jr.	5 Nov 82
Col James P. Ulm	8 Aug 84
Col Charles R. Edwards	8 Jan 87
Col James L. Higham	6 Jan 89
Col Nick P. Ardillo, Jr.	12 Sep 91
Col Robert H. Foglesong	5 Apr 93
Col Garry R. Trexler	8 Dec 93
Col Michael G. Lee	18 Aug 95
Col John J. Catton, Jr.	21 Jul 97
Col Teresa M. Peterson	10 Jul 98
Col Thomas J. Quelly	19 Jun 00
Col Stephen D. Schmidt	9 Aug 02
Col Stephen W. Wilson	24 Mar 04
Col David K. Gerber	9 Jun 06
Col Roger H. Watkins	25 Jun 08
Col Barre R. Seguin	28 Jul 10
Col James R. Sears, Jr.	27 Jun 12
Col John J. Nichols	11 Jul 14
Col Douglas C. Gosney	22 Jul 16
Col Samantha A. Weeks	6 Aug 18
Col Seth W. Graham	18 May 20

## Lineage

### 14th Group

20 Nov 40:	Constituted as 14th Pursuit Group (Fighter).
15 Jan 41:	Activated.
May 42:	Redesignated as 14th Fighter Group.
9 Sep 45:	Inactivated.
20 Nov 46:	Activated.

## 14th Wing

29 Jul 47:	Established as 14th Fighter Wing, a temporary wing.
15 Aug 47:	Organized.
26 Jul 48:	Discontinued the temporary wing.
26 Jul 48:	Activated 14th Fighter Wing as a permanent wing.
2 Oct 49:	Inactivated.
28 Feb 66:	Redesignated as the 14th Air Commando Wing and activated.
8 Mar 66:	Organized.
1 Aug 68:	Redesignated as 14th Special Operations Wing.
30 Sep 71:	Inactivated.
22 Mar 72:	Redesignated as 14th Flying Training Wing.
1 Jun 72:	Activated.

## Assignments

### 14th Group

Eighth Air Force	ca Jul 42
Twelfth Air Force	ca Oct 42
Fifteenth Air Force	43
Inactivated	9 Sep 45
Air Defense Command	Aug 55-Jun 60

### 14th Wing

First Air Force	15 Aug 47
Inactive	2 Oct 49
Pacific Air Forces	28 Feb 66
2d Air Division	8 Mar 66
Seventh Air Force	1 Apr 66
Inactive	30 Sep 71
Air Training Command	1 Jun 72
Nineteenth Air Force	1 Jul 93

## Stations

### 14th Group

Hamilton Field, California	15 Jan 41
March Field, California	ca 10 Jun 41
Hamilton Field, California	7 Feb 42
Atcham, England	18 Aug 42
Tafaraoui, Algeria	15 Nov 42

Maison Blanche, Algeria	18 Nov 42
Youks-les-Bains, Algeria	22 Nov 42
Berteaux, Algeria	9 Jan 43
Mediouna, French Morocco	5 Mar 43
Telergma, Algeria	5 May 43
El Bathan, Tunisia	3 Jun 43
Ste-Marie-du-Zit, Tunisia	25 Jul 43
Triolo Airfield, Italy	12 Dec 43
Lesina, Italy	Sep 45
Dow Field, Maine	20 Nov 46

## 14th Wing

Dow Field (later, AFB), Maine	15 Aug 47 - 2 Oct 49
Nha Trang Air Base, South Vietnam	8 Mar 66 - Oct 69
Phan Rang Air Base, South Vietnam	15 Oct 69 - 30 Sep 71
Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi	1 Jun 72 - Present

### Bestowed Honors

(Earned by the 14th Group)

#### Campaign Streamers (World War II):

Air Combat, European-African-Middle Eastern Theater	
Air Offensive Europe	Northern France
Tunisia	Southern France
Sicily	North Apennines
Naples-Foggia	Rhineland
Rome-Arno	Central Europe
Normandy	Po Valley

#### Decorations:

Distinguished Unit Citation (Austria), 2 Apr 44

### Wing Honors

(Earned by the 14th Wing)

#### Campaign Streamers:

Vietnam Air	Vietnam Summer-Fall 1969
Vietnam Air Offensive	Vietnam Winter-Spring 1970
Vietnam Air Offensive Ph II	Sanctuary Counteroffensive
Vietnam Air Offensive Ph III	Southwest Monsoon
Vietnam Air/Ground	Commando Hunt V
Vietnam Air Offensive Ph IV	Commando Hunt VI
Tet 69 Counteroffensive	

Decorations:

Presidential Unit Citation (SE Asia)8 Mar 66-7 Mar 67  
Presidential Unit Citation (SE Asia)21 Jun 68-30 Jun 69  
Meritorious Unit Commendation1 Jan 68-31 Dec 68  
Republic of Vietnam Gallantry Cross (with Palm):  
1 Apr 66 - 30 Sep 71  
1 Jan 68 - 30 Aug 68

Air Force Outstanding Unit Awards:

16 Jun 67 - 20 Jun 68 (with Combat "V" Device)  
1 Jul 70 - 30 Jun 71 (with Combat "V" Device)  
1 Jan 74 - 31 Dec 74  
1 Apr 85 - 31 Mar 87  
1 Jul 92 - 30 Jun 94  
1 Jul 00 - 30 Jun 02  
1 Jul 02 - 30 Jun 04  
1 Jul 04 - 30 Jun 06  
1 Jul 06 - 30 Jun 07  
1 Jul 07 - 30 Jun 09  
1 Jul 09 - 30 Jun 10  
1 Jul 10 - 30 Jun 11  
1 Jul 12 - 30 Jun 14

## Aircraft Assigned

### 14th Group

P-40	1940-1942	F-86	1955-1960
P-43	1940-1942		
P-38	1941-1945		
P-47	1946-1947		

### 14th Wing

P-47	1947-1948	AC-130	1968
P-84	1947-1948	AC-119	1968-1971
F-47	1948-1949	C-130	1968-1971
F-84	1948-1949	T-41	1969-1973
A-1	1966-1968	T-38A	1969-2003
AC-47	1966-1969	T-37B	1969-2008
C-123	1968-1971	UH-1	1990-1994
C-47	1966-1971	AT-38	1993-2000
HC-47	1966-1969	T-1A	1996-Present
U-10	1966-1969	T-38C	2002-Present
CH-3	1966-1969	T-6A	2006-Present
O-2	1967-1971	A-29	2014-Present
UH-1	1967-1971		

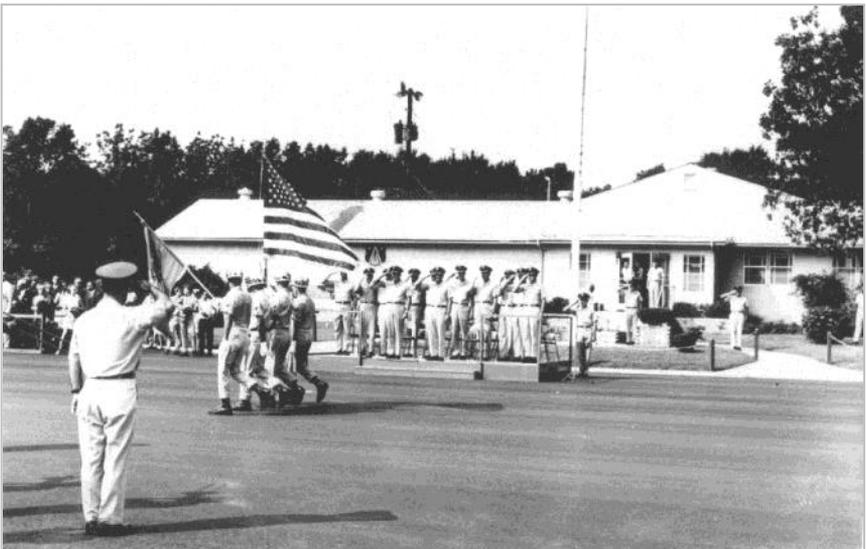
## CHRONOLOGY OF MAJOR EVENTS

- 14 Feb 41 One hundred of the leading citizens from the Columbus area met to organize an association to secure defense industries for Columbus.
- 26 Jun 41 War Department approved an army airfield for Columbus.
- 23 Jul 41 Construction began on the Columbus installation.
- 12 Aug 41 Columbus leased land to the federal government for \$1 per year.
- 13 Jan 42 One hundred enlisted men arrived to from the skeleton organization of the base.
- 22 Jan 42 The War Department announced that the installation's designation would be Kaye Field, in honor of Capt Sam Kaye, a World War I flying ace from the local area.
- 6 Mar 42 The flying school at Columbus graduated its first class of pilots.
- 27 Mar 42 The base changed its name from Kaye Field to Columbus Army Flying School.
- 1946-1950 The base was inactive.



*In the 1940s, this sign greeted visitors as they passed through the main gate at Columbus AFB.*

- 1951-1955 Columbus Air Force Base reactivated as a contract flying school operated by California Eastern Airways.
- 1955 Air Training Command (ATC) moved the contract flying school to Moore Air Base, Texas.
- 1 Apr 55 ATC relinquished the base to Strategic Air Command's (SAC) Second Air Force.
- 10 Jan 56 Quit Claim Deed from Lowndes County and the City of Columbus gives leased air force land to Columbus AFB.
- 1 Jul 58 4228th Strategic Wing established and Columbus became home to a B-52 bomber squadron and a KC-135 refueling tanker squadron.
- Feb 63 SAC discontinued its 4228th Strategic Wing and activated the 454th Bombardment Wing (BW), Heavy as the new host unit at Columbus
- Sep 65 736th Bombardment Squadron won the coveted Fairchild Trophy bombing competition.
- 1965 454th Bomb Wing deployed to the Pacific area to support operations in Vietnam.
- 15 Feb 69 ATC activated the 3650th Pilot Training Wing at Columbus in preparation for the transfer of Columbus from SAC.



*In ceremonies held on 1 July 1969, Strategic Air Command passed control of Columbus AFB to Air Training Command*

- 1 Jul 69 USAF reassigned Columbus from SAC to ATC, and the 3650th Pilot Training Wing became the host unit at the base.
- 1 Jun 72 ATC inactivated the 3650th and activated the 14 Flying Training Wing (14 FTW) as the host wing at Columbus.
- 15 Mar 75 A major flood covered much of the SAC alert area and segments of the northern runway at Columbus.
- 1978 South Gate renovated and modernized.
- 1 Apr 88 Columbus became the first ATC base in more than 20 years to convert from military to contract aircraft maintenance.
- Jul 89 37th Flying Training Squadron (FTS) completed 240 months of accident-free flying.
- 29 Oct 89 A NASA 747 aircraft carrying the space shuttle *Atlantis* landed at Columbus on its return flight to the Kennedy Space Center due to bad weather. This was the first visit to Columbus by the shuttle.
- 25 Jun 90 The flying training program converted to a five-squadron concept in lieu of the three-squadron concept. Thus, in addition to the 37th and 50th Flying Training Squadrons, the 42d, 43d, and 49th Flying Training Squadrons were activated. 14th Student Squadron was inactivated. 42d Flying Training Squadron served as the student squadron.
- 25 Jun 90 Air Force Communications Command reassigned the 1948th Communications Squadron at Columbus to the 14 FTW.
- 25 Jun 90 Detachment 8, 3314th Management Engineering Squadron was inactivated. Air Training Command assigned responsibility for management engineering to the 14 FTW Deputy Commander for Resource Management.
- 15 Dec 91 ATC replaced the tri-deputy organization (deputy commanders for operations, maintenance, and resource management) with an “objective wing” structure of “one base, one wing, one boss” concept. The three Groups (operations, support, and medical) now reported directly to the wing commander.
- 15 Dec 91 ATC inactivated the 42d FTS, leaving the wing with four flying training squadrons. 14th Operations Support Squadron was activated.
- 1 Oct 92 As pilot production dropped, and the need for four flying training squadrons decreased, the ATC inactivated the 43d FTS (T-37) and 49th FTS (T-38).

- Jan 93 ATC transitioned to specialized undergraduate pilot training (SUPT) consisting of three phases and four specialized tracks. T-1A aircraft were used for the airlift/tanker portion of SUPT. Columbus did not receive its first T-1A aircraft until 1996.
- 1 Jul 93 Columbus AFB began its new mission of training fighter pilots in the Introduction to Fighter Fundamentals (IFF) course. ATC reactivated the 49th FTS to support the new IFF mission.
- Aug 93 The first AT-38s arrived on base for the IFF course.
- 1 Sep 94 14th Medical Group activated four squadrons: 14th Dental Squadron, 14th Aerospace Medicine Squadron, 14th Medical Support Squadron, and 14th Medical Operations Squadron.
- 6 Feb 95 Space shuttle *Endeavor* ferried by a NASA 747 aircraft landed at Columbus AFB.
- 25 Jan 96 The first T-1A aircraft arrived on base to support Specialized Undergraduate Pilot Training.
- 19 Apr 96 The first SUPT class, Class 97-08, entered training.
- 1 Jul 96 48th FTS was activated.
- 1 Jul 96 Ground broken for the new enlisted dormitories dedicated to Congressman Sonny Montgomery as "Montgomery Village."
- 1 Sep 96 14th Communications Squadron and Information Management Flight merged.
- 22 Sep 96 The base completed a major self-help project to renovate Freedom Park.
- 25 Oct 96 Lt Col Bruce Busler (48 FTS/CC) and 1Lt James Bruce flew the first T-1A student sortie.
- 2 May 97 SUPT Class 97-08, the first SUPT class, graduated.
- 1 Jun 97 14th Aerospace Medicine Squadron inactivated.
- 19 Jun 97 43d Flying Training Flight activated as a reserve flight.
- 1 Jul 97 14th Security Police Squadron was redesignated the 14th Security Forces Squadron.
- 1 Oct 97 The base connected to city water.

- 17 Apr 98 Due to the A-76 study, the 14th Logistics Squadron inactivated and became the Logistics Division.
- 5 Jun 98 The 43d Flying Training Flight activated as the 43d FTS (Reserve).
- 17 Jun 98 14th Dental Squadron inactivated.
- 1 Oct 98 41st FTS (the second T-37 squadron at Columbus) activated.
- Feb 99 Construction of new military family housing began.
- 31 Jul 99 AETC designated Columbus as the test base for the T-38C avionics upgrade program. The first two T-38C test aircraft arrived.
- 10 Oct 00 As a result of the IFF mission moving to Moody AFB, Georgia, the 49th FTS inactivated at Columbus and activated at Moody.
- 10 Oct 00 Detachment 1, 14th Operations Group activated until all aircraft and personnel supporting the IFF mission transferred to Moody.
- 20 Dec 00 The last AT-38 aircraft and remaining personnel supporting IFF transferred to Moody AFB, Georgia.
- 16 Jul 02 The base's first operational T-38C arrived on base.
- 22 Apr 03 The \$4.8M corrosion control facility was completed.
- 28 Mar 04 The \$5M state-of-the-art radar approach control facility was completed.
- 21 Jun 04 14th Comptroller Flight was redesignated as the 14th Comptroller Squadron.
- 1 Oct 04 Manpower Office merged with the Mission Support Squadron and became Manpower and Organization Flight.
- 12 Nov 04 New military working dog facility was completed.
- 1 Jan 05 SecTek DynCorp began working as the new security service contractor for the base.
- 13 May 05 Base learned it was not on the BRAC base closure list.
- 15 Jul 05 The new air traffic control tower was completed.
- 29 Aug 05 Hurricane Katrina hit the base as a Category 1 hurricane.

- 18 Nov 05 2Lt Kelly Nettleblad, class 06-02, became the base's 10,000th pilot graduate.
- Oct 06 First T-6A Texan II arrived.
- 15 Dec 06 First T-6 student sortie was flown.
- 16 Feb 07 First T-38C arrived from Moody AFB, Georgia, to conduct IFF training.
- 10 May 07 Due to BRAC realignment, the 49 FTS returned to Columbus from Moody AFB, Georgia, to conduct IFF training.
- 3 Jul 07 New \$8M fire crash rescue station opened.
- Sep 07 The base held its 65th anniversary celebration.
- 21 Sep 07 Newly renovated base theater renamed Kaye Auditorium for Columbus-born World War I ace Captain Sam Kaye.
- 1 Oct 07 Columbus began privatized base housing with Pinnacle-Hunt Communities, LLC, as the housing developer.
- 18 Jan 08 Medical clinic was named Koritz Clinic after Major Thomas Koritz, a 1981 Columbus AFB graduate (Class 82-01) and Air Force physician, killed in Iraq in January 1991.
- 21 Mar 08 Col Yoshiaki Ishii, Japan Self Defense Force, visited CAFB.
- 31 Mar 08 Final T-37 student sortie was flown.
- 3 Apr 08 T-37 was formally retired.
- 16 Apr 08 Mission Support Squadron and Services Division merged to form the 14th Force Support Squadron.
- 23 Apr 08 A T-38C crashed on initial takeoff and resulted in the death of both pilots (IP Major Brian Faulker and student 2Lt Matthew Emmons).
- 16 Jul 08 14th Comptroller and Contracting Squadron (Provisional) was activated.
- 29 Jul 08 Pinnacle-Hunt held a ground-breaking ceremony for the construction of 145 new housing units in State and Magnolia Villages.
- 24 Oct 08 1Lt Brad M. Delloiacona (Class 09-01) received Columbus' first unmanned aerial system assignment.

- 12 Nov 08 The base held the ribbon cutting for Phase I of the new \$10M Mission Support Group complex and the ground breaking ceremony for Phase II of the complex.
- 2 Dec 08 Maj Gen Al-Sedais, Commandant of Saudi Arabia's Faizul Air Academy toured the base.
- 21 May 09 The base held a dedication ceremony for 14 FTW Civil Engineer Fire Department in memory of SMSgt (Ret) Robert A. McAllister who was also the Columbus AFB Fire Chief for 22 years.
- 2 Jun 09 Space Shuttle *Atlantis*, ferried by a NASA 747, landed at Columbus AFB, marked the base's final shuttle ferry flight support and the end of an era—NASA Space Shuttle Program.
- 19 Jun 09 First Afghan to graduate at Columbus in nearly 50 years. Lt Faiz Mohammed Ramaki via the Aviation Leadership Program.
- 24 Jul 09 First Iraqi to graduate at Columbus. 2Lt Omar Al-Nuaimi (SUPT Class 09-12) via the Aviation Leadership Program.
- 1 Oct 09 A ribbon cutting ceremony was held for the opening of the base's new security enhanced South Gate.
- 18 Feb10 14th Comptroller and Contracting Squadron was inactivated as a provisional unit. The two-year trial testing period did not show compelling reasons for continuing the combined squadrons. The 14th Comptroller Squadron and the 14th Contracting Squadron were activated in its place.
- 26 Mar 10 Dedication ceremony for George "Happy" Irby Parkway was held roadside near the intersection of Mississippi Highway 786, also known as the Main Gate Road. Irby was a longtime employee and volunteer at Columbus AFB.
- 30 Apr 10 Columbus AFB held a ribbon cutting ceremony for the state-of-the-art main entrance gate.
- 8 Jul 10 Newly refurbished Shuqualak Auxiliary Airfield Fire Station held an Open House.
- 21 Oct 10 Grand re-opening of the newly-renovated Base Exchange.
- 8 Nov 10 Grand opening of the new Child Development Center.
- 17 Dec 10 The 14th Contracting Squadron Director of Business Operations received the first ever Tandy Weaver Memorial Award

for outreach and involvement with local small businesses.

- 20 Jan 11 City of Columbus received its first ever AETC Community Support Award (Altus Trophy) for its support of Columbus AFB.
- 27 Feb 11 14 FTW received AETC Outstanding Unit Award.
- 24 Jul 11 Twenty 14th Security Force Squadron members marched 146-mile portion from Alexandria, Louisiana to Brookhaven, Mississippi as a part of the “Ruck March to Remember” a tribute to the 10th anniversary of the 9/11 attacks.
- 10 Aug 11 General Edward Rice, AETC Commander and AETC Command Chief Master Sgt Jim Cody visited Columbus AFB for the first time.
- 1 Oct 11 AETC transitioned from contract stimulator instructors to civilian service simulator instructors.
- 1 Dec 11 AETC reactivated the 14th Student Squadron (STUS) at Columbus AFB and assigned to 14th Operations Group (14 OG).
- 9 Mar 12 Columbus AFB celebrated its 70th Anniversary.
- 6 Oct 12 The first Columbus UPT class, 71-01, also known as the “First of the finest” returned to the Columbus AFB for a reunion.
- 1 Nov 12 Columbus AFB received a new aircraft maintenance service contract agreement with L3 Communications replacing Dyn-Corp International.
- 6 Sep 13 Columbus AFB completed a six-month modernization and reconstruction project to replace the base’s nearly 60-year-old middle runway surface.
- 26-27 May 14 AETC Commander Gen Robin Rand and AETC CMSgt Gerardo Tapia visited Columbus AFB.
- 1 Aug 14 The 14th Logistics Readiness Squadron was activated and assigned to the 14th Mission Support Group.
- 25 Aug 14 AETC activated the 81st Fighter Squadron at Moody AFB, Georgia, to train Afghani pilots and maintainers on the A-29 Super Tucano fighter aircraft. While a tenant unit at Moody AFB, the squadron falls under command of the 14th Operations Group and 14 FTW at Columbus AFB.
- 24 Sep 14 Air Force Chief Master Sergeant James A. Cody visits Columbus AFB.

- 1 Oct 14 Nineteenth Air Force (19 AF) is reactivated at Joint Base San Antonio Randolph, Texas, as the parent organization of the 14 FTW.
- 1 Dec 14 Columbus AFB hosted the Chief of Staff of the Japanese Air Defense Force, General Harukazu Saitoh.
- 17 Dec 14 Secretary of the Air Force, Deborah L. James visited Columbus AFB.
- Jan 15 AETC announced that the 14 FTW received its twelfth Air Force Outstanding Unit Award.
- 8 May 15 Columbus, Lowndes County, Mississippi, held an official grand opening of a \$1.9 million small arms range for weapons qualification and training. The range is used jointly by Columbus AFB Airmen, Lowndes County, City of Columbus, and other local law enforcement departments.
- Aug 15 48th FTS conducted a mass launch of 12 T-1A Jayhawks to practice the combat capability of safely and swiftly launching a large number of aircraft.
- Oct 15 14th Medical Group began to move into the newly renovated Koritz Clinic, which include Dental, Mental Health and Physical Therapy Clinics.
- Dec 15 The 81 FS graduated its first class of Afghani combat-ready attack pilots.
- 1 Feb 16 Columbus Club/Event Center, a \$1,600,000 project, reopened to its patrons after an extensive upgrade to the heating and ventilation system.
- 18 Aug 16 Fire Emergency Services Flight, 14th Civil Engineer Squadron received accreditation from the Center for Fire Accreditation International for its delivery of fire and emergency services to communities.
- 16 Sep 16 81 FS received 2016 Secretary of Defense Maintenance Award as the DOD's best military maintenance units.
- 22 Dec 16 New Community Commons opened. Costing \$2.6 million, the upgrades to the Base Library and Base Education Center included Morale, Welfare and Recreation activities; arts and crafts, outdoor recreation sales, tickets and tours, Internet Café, and education center information office.
- 10 Sep 16 Base Fitness Center expansion, budgeted at \$951,000 was

designed to improve its functions and airmen morale.

- 30 Apr 17 Columbus AFB golf course closed permanently following years of financial losses and lack of usage. The 14th Civil Engineer Squadron converted the course into a Fitness Trail.
- 20 Oct 17 48 FTS “Alley Cats” was recognized as AETC’s top T-1 Jayhawk squadron for 2017.
- 9 –12 Jan 18 Researchers from Air Command and Staff College, Air University at Maxwell Air Force Base, Alabama, conducted an Adaptive Flight Training Study to aid in the Air Force’s advancement in training and education through virtual reality.
- 28 Feb 18 Col. Kunihiro Fujinaga, Director of the Education Division, Personnel and Training Department, Air Staff Office, and Lt Col. Mitsuhiro Saito, JASDF Flight Training Section Director, visited Columbus AFB.
- Jan 19 41 FTS and 37 FTS were the first flying training squadrons on Columbus AFB to build a virtual reality training room.
- 18 Jan 19 Brig Gen Mustafa Al Bayati, Iraq Defense Attaché visited Columbus AFB.
- 24 Jan 19 Air Vice-Marshal Aliyu Bello, director of training for the Nigerian Air Force visited Columbus AFB.
- 25 Jan 19 Air Force Vice Chief of Staff Gen Stephen Wilson visited Columbus AFB to officiate the retirement ceremony of Richard “Sonic” Johnson, former 14 FTW Public Affairs chief.
- 6 Feb 19 Demolition of Freedom Park began with construction estimated to be completed in April 2019.
- May 19 14 FTW received the 2018 Air Force Outstanding Unit Award for “exceptionally outstanding achievement.
- 31 May 19 Capt. Toai Dang, of Vietnam Air Defense-Air Force, was the first Vietnamese student to graduate from the Aviation Leadership Program (ALP) at Columbus AFB.
- 29 May 19 37 FTS unveiled its freshly painted T-6 Texan II in yellow with black stripes represents their lineage and heritage and to represent the squadron’s patch, a Bengal tiger mother with a cub in her mouth.
- 3 Jul 19 50th FTS’s newly painted T-38 Talon showcased its heritage design to celebrate their past, present and future.
- 19 Jul 19 Freedom Park re-opened after being closed for construction

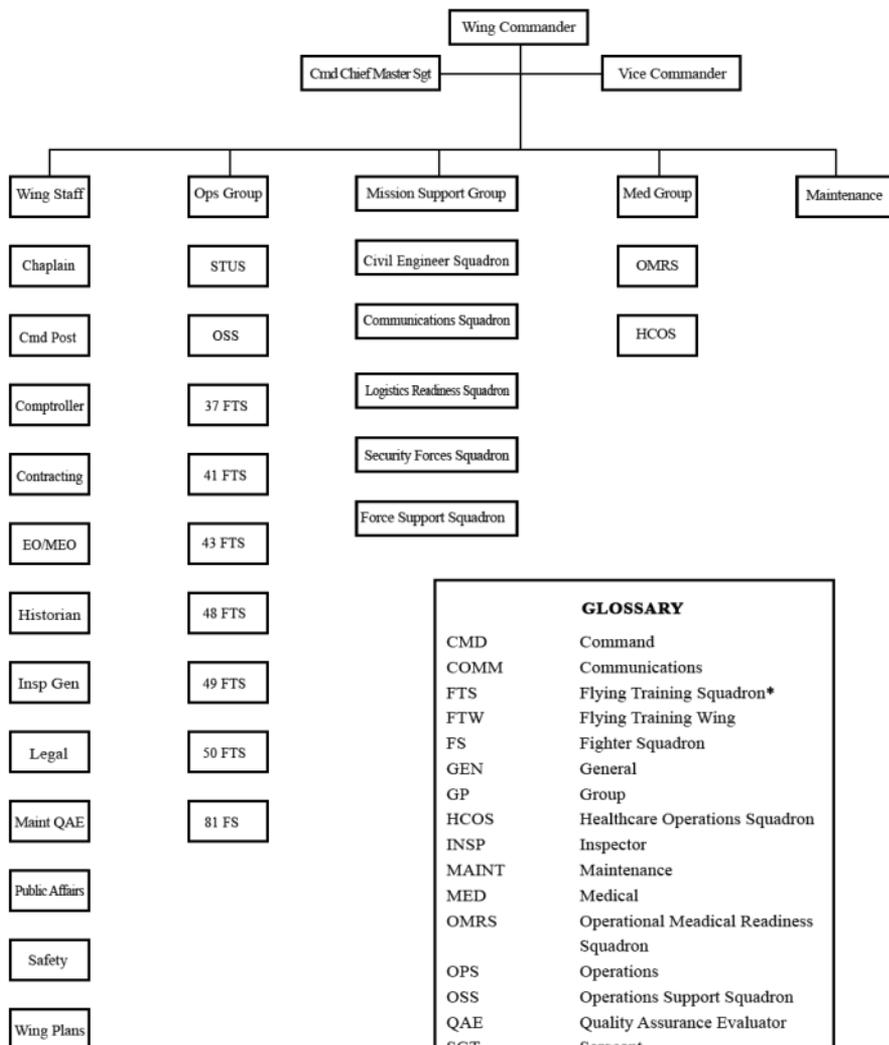
since 6 Feb 19.

- 16 Aug 19 Nigerian air force First Lt Kafayat Sanni became the first female fighter pilot in Nigeria upon graduating from the Aviation Leadership Program (ALP) on Columbus AFB.
- 23 Aug 19 41 FTS unveiled its newly painted T-6 Texan II on Columbus AFB. The 41 FTS's aircraft is the third of six heritage flag ship aircraft connecting to the history attached to each squadron.
- 30 Sep 19 - 3 Oct 19 Maj Gen Craig Wills, 19th AF commander, and Chief Master Sgt Erik Thompson, 19th AF command chief, visited Columbus AFB.
- 25 Oct 19 14 FTW unveiled four of its six heritage flagship aircraft during a ceremony at the Walker Center on Columbus AFB. The 43 FTS's T-1A Jayhawk, painted in the color scheme used on the squadron's aircraft during World War II, was the final heritage painting project.
- 31 Jan 20 United States declared COVID-19 a health crisis.
- 5-6 Feb 20 Lieutenant General Brad Webb, AETC commander and AETC Chief Master Sergeant Juliet Gudgel, visited Columbus AFB.
- 11 Mar 20 World Health Organization declared NOVEL CORONAVIRUS 2019 a pandemic.
- 16 Mar 20 – 11 May 20 USAF suspended all travel except for pilot training, permanent change of station (PCS), and temporary duty (TDY) due to the Novel Coronavirus 2019 (COVID-19) high infection rate in the United States and the rest of the world.
- 16 Mar 20 “Wings over Columbus” air show scheduled for 25-26 April 2020 was canceled due to COVID-19.
- 20 Mar 20 14 MDG has changed the way it processed medical care due to COVID-19 by setting up drive through exterior initial screening process. It also limited access to the pharmacy. Lab and radiology limited to emergency only, and dental care only for pre-deployment and emergencies.
- 21 Mar 20 City of Columbus, MS, issued a daily curfew from 10 p.m. - 6 a.m., permitting essential travel only. Columbus AFB will restrict base military personnel to essential travel only during this window.
- 10 Apr 20 Department of Defense (DoD) required its personnel to wear face masks mandatory whenever they cannot maintain a six-

foot social distance from each other in public or work areas.

- 24 Apr 20 Retired Major General Brian Bishop, former commander of Carl A. Spaatz Center for Officer Education and commandant of Air War College at Maxwell AFB, Alabama, sent a virtual motivational message to the graduates of SUPT 20-12/13 rather than an in-person address. Marking a change to graduations as the result of COVID-19.
- 9 May 20 Columbus AFB pilots flew over several area communities to honor American heroes on the front lines battling the COVID-19 pandemic. The flyovers were part of numerous USAF flyovers that have taken place in the US during the last several weeks.
- 11 May 20 CAFB hosted the first-ever Air Force Virtual Women's Fly-In during a Facebook Live event.
- 18 May 20 Colonel Seth Graham took command of the 14 FTW on 18 May 2020.
- 19 Aug 20 Two 23 FTS TH-1H Hueys stationed at Fort Rucker, Alabama and fourteen personnel traveled to Columbus AFB to train as part of the Undergraduate Helicopter Training Next (UHTN) program. The AETC is testing a way for pilots assigned to helicopters to go straight to helicopter training and skip the fixed-wing portion of pilot training.
- 23 Sep 20 Lieutenant Colonel David "Beau" Easterling Jr., 43 FTS instructor pilot, completed his 4,000th flying hour in the T-38 Talon.
- 2 Oct 20 48 FTS unveiled their newly-painted T-1A Jayhawk with heritage paint design.
- 13 Oct 20 81 FS graduated its last class of Afghan A-29 Super Tucano student pilots.

## Organizational Chart



### GLOSSARY

CMD	Command
COMM	Communications
FTS	Flying Training Squadron*
FTW	Flying Training Wing
FS	Fighter Squadron
GEN	General
GP	Group
HCOS	Healthcare Operations Squadron
INSP	Inspector
MAINT	Maintenance
MED	Medical
OMRS	Operational Medical Readiness Squadron
OPS	Operations
OSS	Operations Support Squadron
QAE	Quality Assurance Evaluator
SGT	Sergeant
SPT	Support
SQ	Squadron
STUS	Student Squadron
*49 FTS= Fighter Training Squadron	

Wing History Office  
HQ, 14<sup>th</sup> Flying Training Wing  
Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi  
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